Remarks/Arguments

Claims 105-116 have been cancelled. New claims 117-124 have been added.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Electronic Funds Transfer payment in the amount of $790 to cover the RCE filing fee payment are being filed with this Amendment. Authorization is granted to charge our deposit account no. 03-3415 for any additional fees necessary for entry of this Amendment.

The Examiner has rejected applicants' claims 105 and 110 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement because the limitation "summarization of a document" is not described in the specification. Applicants have cancelled applicants' claims 105-116, thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection. Moreover, applicants believe that applicants' newly added claims 117-124 are in compliance with the written description requirement under 35 USC 112, first paragraph since claims 117-124 do not recite the limitation "summarization of a document." In addition, the limitations of applicants' new independent claims 117-124 are described in applicants' specification on page 35, line 1 to page 37, line 26 and shown in FIGS. 11, 13, 26A and 26B, in which the management unit is shown as a user conversion setting table 706e in FIG. 11 and a portable terminal performance table 706g, the first determination unit/step is disclosed in step S351 of FIG. 26A, the second determination unit/step is disclosed in step S352 of FIG. 26A, the first generation unit/step is disclosed in steps S354 and S368 of FIGS. 26A and 26B the second generation unit/ step is disclosed in steps S353 and S368 of FIGS. 26A and 26B and the sending unit/step is disclosed in step S369 of FIG. 26B.

The Examiner has rejected applicants' claim 105 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Shaffer, et al. (US 6,092,114) patent in view of the Kudrolli, et al. (US

6,279,018) patent. The Examiner has also rejected applicants' claims 105, 108 and 113 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Fields, et al. (EP 1 058 199) patent in view of the Shaffer, et al. patent. Applicants' claims 106-107, 110-112 and 115-116 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Fields, et al. patent and the Shaffer, et al. patent in view of the Kucmerowski (US 2001/0013871) publication. Applicants' claims 109 and 114 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Fields, et al. patent and the Shaffer, et al. patent in view of the Kucmerowski publication in further view of the Batchelder, et al. (US 5,691,708) patent. Applicants have cancelled applicants' claims 105-116, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejections moot with respect to these claims.

Applicant believes that the constructions recited in applicants' new claims 117-124 are not taught or suggested by the cited art of record. Applicants' new independent claim 117 recites an information providing apparatus comprising an management unit adapted to manage settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail, a reception unit adapted to receive electronic mail data addressed to a communication terminal, a first determining unit adapted to determine, by referring to the management unit, whether the number of characters of mail text of the electronic mail data received by the reception unit exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters of the addressed communication terminal, a second determination unit adapted to, when the first determination unit determines that the number of characters of the mail text exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, determine whether settings corresponding to the addressed communication terminal indicates that an abstract is

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to be generated, by referring to the management unit, a first generation unit adapted to, when the second determination unit determines that the setting indicates to generate an abstract, generate an abstract of the mail text as text to be sent, a second generation unit adapted to, when the second determination unit determines that the setting indicates not to generate an abstract, generate text to be sent by cutting characters which exceed the maximum number of displayable characters, and a sending unit adapted to send the text to be sent generated by the first or second generation unit to the addressed communication terminal. Applicants' new independent claim 119 recites similar features.

The cited references fail to teach or suggest <u>managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail</u> and determining, <u>by referring to the managing the settings,</u> whether the number of characters of mail text of the electronic mail data exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters of the addressed communication terminal and <u>whether settings corresponding to the addressed communication terminal indicate that an abstract is to be generated</u>. The Examiner has acknowledged that the Shaffer, et al. patent does not teach reducing the mail data characters when the mail data characters exceed the maximum number of displayable characters. Thus, the Shaffer, et al. patent does not, and cannot, teach or suggest managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of the communication terminals by associating the settings with the address of the electronic mail. In addition, as acknowledged by the Examiner in rejecting applicants' claims 109 and 114, the Shaffer, et al. patent does not teach or suggest determining whether the number of characters of mail text of

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the electronic mail data exceeds the number of displayable characters of the communication terminal. Thus, the Shaffer, et al. patent also does not, and cannot teach or suggest determining <u>whether the number of characters of the mail text of the electronic mail data exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters by referring to the managing of the settings</u>.

The Kudrolli, et al. patent also fails to teach or suggest managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of the communication terminal by associating the settings with the address of the electronic mail. Specifically, the Kudrolli, et al. patent discloses an abbreviation application for abbreviating a text string to fit into display space constraints. In the Kudrolli, et al. patent, the abbreviation application checks the space constrains of the display to which the output is to be supplied and generates OtputL and StrRws parameters defining the row width and the number of rows in the display. See, Col. 18, lines 42-51 and Col. 53, lines 37-40. The application in the Kudrolli, et al. patent then abbreviates the inputted text string in accordance with selected abbreviation functions and parameters (see Tables, 2 and 4-6). See, Col. 22, lines 14-35 and Col. 53, lines 41-47. Thus, in Kudrolli, et al., the maximum number of displayable characters is determined by the application by checking the display on which the text is to be outputted, and there is no mention in the Kudrolli, et al. patent of <u>managing the maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with the address of electronic mail</u>. Moreover, the selected abbreviation functions and parameters in Kudrolli, et al. only define how to generate an abstract of the text string if the text string exceeds the maximum number of displayable

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characters, and there is no teaching or suggestion in Kudrolli, et al. of <u>settings that indicate whether or not to generate the abstract of the text</u>.

Applicants' new independent claims 117 and 118, which recite the above-discussed features, and their respective dependent claims, therefore patentably distinguish over the Shaffer, et al. patent and the Kudrolli, et al. patent, taken alone or in combination. Moreover, there is nothing taught or suggested in the Fields, et al. patent, the Kucmerowski publication or the Batchelder, et al. patent to change this conclusion.

In particular, the Fields, et al. patent only discloses an Internet mail delivery agent which removes and caches attachments to e-mail messages so as to obviate storage of multiple copies of these attachments. See Paragraphs [0007], [0011], [0013] and [0022]. The Fields, et al. patent teaches monitoring incoming e-mail for attachments, stripping attachments from e-mail that satisfy certain criteria and storing the stripped attachment at a given location accessible to the addressees of the e-mail. See Paragraph [0023]. There is no mention in the Fields, et al. patent of <u>managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail</u>, or of <u>determining, by referring to the managing of such settings, whether the number of characters of the mail text exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters and if so, determining by referring to the managing, whether the settings indicate that an abstract is to be generated</u>.

The Kucmerowski publication likewise fails to teach or suggest these features. In particular, Kucmerowski teaches a method of displaying a message on a screen of a telephone, or a similar device, wherein the message is longer than the size of the display, so as to display a first portion of the message on the screen with a marker to indicate that the

message includes further characters which can be displayed on further displays. There is no generating of an abstract in the Kucmerowski publication and thus, there is no, and cannot be, any managing of settings that indicate whether or not an abstract of the message is to be generated in Kucmerowski. In addition, Kucmerowski does not teach or suggest association of the settings with the address of the electronic mail.

Finally, the Batchelder, et al. patent discloses an abstraction system which is provided with an inputted message, a command set and a maximum message length, and which generates an abstracted message conveying all the important information within the maximum length constraints. See Abstract. The Batchelder, et al. only discloses that the maximum length permissible for the abstracted message is provided to a text abstractor along with the inputted message and the set of abstraction commands on how the abstraction is to be performed. See, Col. 3, lines 60-65. The Batchelder, et al. patent, however, makes no mention of settings that indicate whether or not the abstracted message is to be generated and does not teach or suggest determining, when the number of characters of the message exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, whether the settings indicate that the abstract is to be generated. Instead, if the number of characters of the inputted message in the Batchelder, et al. patent exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, the abstraction system in Batchelder, et al. automatically generates the abstract of the inputted message in accordance with the abstraction commands. In addition, the Batchelder, et al. patent merely teaches receiving the maximum number of displayable characters by the abstraction system and there is no teaching or suggestion in Batchelder, et al. of managing settings indicating the maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail.
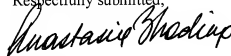
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Accordingly, applicants' new independent claims 117 and 119, each of which recites managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail and determining, by referring to the managing of the settings, whether the number of characters of mail text of the electronic mail data exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters of the addressed communication terminal, and if it is determined that the number of characters of the mail text exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, determining whether the settings corresponding to the addressed communication terminal indicates that an abstract is to be generated, and their respective claims, patentably distinguish over the Shaffer, et al. patent, the Kudrolli, et al. patent, the Fields, et al. patent, the Kucmerowski publication and the Batchelder, et al. patent, taken alone or in combination.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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